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Recommended Citation

University Marketing and Communications, "12/02/1981 - david ferguson" (1981). *1981*. 335.
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Dec. 2, 1981

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL-David Fergurson (Alton), Eastern Illinois University freshman football player, lettered for the Panthers by playing in ten games as a reserve linebacker/speciality team player.

He started one game at middle linebacker when veteran Bill Mines was injured, and finished the season with 39 tackles including 24 solos, a quarterback sack, two tackles for loss and a fumble recovery.

"David is a very aggressive football player who made a quick adjustment to college play," said assistant head coach Chuck Dickerson, who recruited Fergurson.

"College defenses are pretty complex but he picked up our system, and I anticipate that he will seriously challenge for a starting spot next year since we lose two starting linebackers."

The Panthers finished 6-5 for their fourth straight winning season. During these years EIU was 36-14, the best collegiate won-lost mark among Illinois State schools.